WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating sympathetically maintained chronic pain, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C_1, D, E, F or G to a sympathetic ganglion of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block for an extended period of time.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.

3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.

4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetically maintained chronic pain is of the lower extremities, and said block is of the lumbar splanchnic nerves.

5. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetically maintained chronic pain is of the upper extremities, and said block is of the inferior, middle or superior cervical sympathetic ganglion.

6. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said sympathetic ganglion is one or more of the superior cervical ganglia; middle superior cervical ganglion; vertebral ganglion; cervicothoracic (stellate) ganglion; sympathetic trunk; thoracic sympathetic ganglion; aorticorenal ganglion; lumbar sympathetic ganglion; celiac ganglion; superior mesenteric ganglion; inferior mesenteric ganglion; superior and inferior hypogastric plexus; and ganglion impar.

7. The method according to Claim 3, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

identifying the chronic pain as being mediated by the sympathetic nervous system by administering a local anesthetic as a sympathetic block;

wherein a cessation of at least about 50% of the perceived pain for a short period of time following said sympathetic block is indicative of sympathetically maintained pain.

8. A method for treating cardiovascular conditions, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C_1, D, E, F or G to a sympathetic ganglion of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block

for an extended period of time.

9. The method according to Claim 8, wherein said cardiovascular condition is selected from the group consisting of retinal artery thrombosis; peripheral vascular disease; coronary artery disease; post prandial ischemia; cerebral vasospasm; coronary vasospasm; Raynaud's Disease, Raynaud's Phenomenon, and vasospasm of the lower extremities.

10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said treatment provides for pain relief in said patient.

11. The method according to Claim 9, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.

12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.

13. A method of treating a disease with a sympathetic block of the celiac plexus, the method comprising:

administering a therapeutically effective dose of a botulinum toxin type A, B, C_1, D, E, F or G to the celiac plexus of a human patient, thereby achieving a sympathetic block for an extended period of time.

14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of:

ischemic bowel, cirrhosis, pancreatitis, irritable bowel disease, and interstitial cystitis.

15. The method according to Claim 13, wherein said botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.

16. The method according to Claim 15, wherein said effective dose of botulinum toxin is from about 1 to 300 units.